

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2009
Public Session I
ALTON TOWN HALL

Convene – At 6:00pm, W. Curtin convened the Selectmen’s meeting, those present included the following members of the Board and staff:

William Curtin, Acting Chairman
Stephan McMahon, Vice-Chair
Patricia Fuller, Selectman
Peter Bolster, Selectman

W. Curtin led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Approval of the Agenda

P. Fuller motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

Announcements

P. Fuller motioned to nominate W. Curtin as chairman until the March re-organization of the Board and that S. McMahon be appointed as Vice-Chair, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

Appointment

The Board met with Robert Longabaugh and reviewed payment terms for the individual who will be video taping the deliberative session. P Fuller motioned to approve the same payment as last year \$37.50 per hour and if the meeting exceeds 3 hours, payment will be \$15.00 per hour, seconded by P. Bolster for discussion. P.Bolster noted that when the tape is edited, he would advocate that it should be short and crisp to keep the audience attention. The motion passed with all in favor.

Announcements

The Chairman noted the Deliberative Session will be held on February 4th, voting will take place March 10th. He continued Winter Carnival will be on the 15th until 4:00pm. He continued that the 19th is Candidates Night in the music room at the Alton Central School sponsored by the Rotary Club beginning at 7:00pm.

Selectmen’s Committee Reports

P. Fuller – P. Fuller provided her input concerning the home schooling bill before the legislature and that she had contacted Representative Bolster. He assured her that he will testify against this bill as it puts an unnecessary burden on the homeschoolers. P. Fuller advised she will contact homeschoolers in Alton.

P. Fuller continued that BCEDC will receive funding along with other agencies. Speaking as a legislator, P. Bolster advised that there will be more dialog over the next year concerning these agencies and the role of the county. P. Fuller stated she will be attending a DOT hearing in two weeks concerning a safety study for Route 28.

S. McMahon stated the Budget Committee and the School had their deliberation session, he was unable to attend. He noted the Town deliberative session will be this Wednesday. He continued his role on the Budget Committee is finished unless other items come up.

P. Bolster – gave a report on the activities of the Downtown Revitalization Committee concerning veteran's plaques, and moving the train station. He added he will try to arrange a meeting with NH DES to correct a drain problem at the Town Beach. He suggested residents review legislative bills as an incredible number of them are presented. He was opposed to the homeschool bill, stating it would erode the freedom of parents to make decisions about their children's education, that home schooled students always do well. He has been assigned to a committee dealing with wetlands, milfoil aquatic weeds and a field trip is planned to visit the Merry Meeting river. He advised citizens to send e-mails, make phone calls or letters on issues concerning Alton.

W. Curtin reported that the Planning Board will meet on the 17th, they are keeping busy with sub-committees. Debris from fishermen's bobhouses is a concern and he asked the media's assistance to write in their articles that all debris brought in, should not be left behind.

P. Fuller stated she wanted to clear up a misconception concerning the land purchase of the school, that the Board of Selectmen have not discussed this in a meeting or outside of a meeting, newspapers have written misleading information and should be corrected and she wanted to set the record straight that the Selectmen have not issued an opinion on whether they should, or should not, buy into this piece of land; that "we are neutral" The only information released through the school board is that if Town meeting approved the purchase, the Board of Selectmen would assist in getting a driveway cut into the land. She thanked *The Baysider*, for reporting the information correctly.

P. Bolster, stated he agreed that as a Board there has been no discussion on this matter but individuals may express their opinions. P. Fuller disagreed, stating the public does not see the distinction as reported on Peter Bolster's comments in *The Laconia Daily Sun*.

P. Bolster explained that he had made it very clear at the time, that he was making his own statement and speaking as an individual, not speaking for the Board.

Town Administrator's Report

R. Bailey presented handouts from Scott Simonds to the Board concerning the Swap Shop and this matter will be an item for the next agenda any final decisions will be made at that time.

He continued three persons had finished CERT training with Captain Consentino of the Fire Department.

He explained there is a fund set aside for energy conservation programs, through the Public Utility Commission and he has sent them a request for funding including a windmill for the transfer station. This is comparatively new and he will bring this matter before the Board again.

R. Bailey noted the Alton Business Association has asked the Board to waive a fee to use the Alton Bay Community Center for a fundraising event during Winter Carnival. Following a review, the Board approved waiving the fee by unanimous vote

Schedule of next Meeting -. R. Bailey noted the Town offices will be closed on February 16th. It was agreed to schedule a Workshop Session for February 18th if necessary.

Public Input I

R. Longabaugh asked if consideration has been given to the Bulletin Board with regards to improving the entry way at the Town Hall. He was advised there will be 24 hour access to the Bulletin Board.

Approval of the Selectmen's Minutes –

Minutes of January 19, 2009, Public Session I and II and (sealed) Non-Public Session - W. Curtin amended pages 4 and 5 of Public Session I to correct the spelling of his last name. W. Curtin motioned to accept the minutes of Public Session I as amended seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor. W. Curtin motioned to accept the minutes of Public Session II and the (sealed) Non-Public Session minutes, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

Old Business

1. Fire Department Fees – The Board met with Acting Fire Chief Scott Williams and Captain Edward Constantino and reviewed the fees as proposed. (see attached) Fire officials will work with the Code Official and keep all files and inspections up to date between the Fire Department and Town records. R. Bailey advised all fees collected will go in as general revenue. The fee schedule will be posted and in effect for thirty days following that, it will be in effect on March 5th. P. Fuller motioned to accept the fee schedule from the Alton Fire and Rescue Department for inspections as noted, to be effective March 5th, seconded by P. Bolster and passed.

It was noted that the retirement party for Alan Johnson and Michael Caverly was very well attended with over 100 persons present.

2. Deliberative Session Review - R. Bailey asked that if any member had any questions regarding the bond article to advise him before Wednesday. He noted the architect will be present at the deliberative session. The Board members then proceeded to name who would move, second and speak on warrant articles.

New Business

1. Request to use the Bandstand – R. Bailey noted the Alton Centennial Rotary Club has requested approval for the use of the Alton Bay Bandstand as the location for a registration table for the “Kids Fishing Derby” to be held on February 15th, Winter Carnival W. Curtin moved to grant this permission, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

2. Legislation Items – R. Bailey noted this information came from the Local Government Center for the Board's review and will be re-submitted to the Board for discussion at a future meeting.

3. ATC Engineering Agreement – R. Bailey advised this agreement for groundwater monitoring at the Landfill is the same as last year. P. Fuller motioned that the Town Administrator sign the agreement with ATC, the amount not to exceed \$5300, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

4. Vote on the Recommendations of the Town Assessor – W. Curtin read the recommendations as submitted. P. Bolster noted there is a bill before the legislature with regards to veteran's tax abatement benefits – to extend credit to any veteran whether he was in a battle or not. W. Curtin motioned to grant the requests as presented by the Assessor, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

5. Highway Bids – R. Bailey noted the bids as attached are normal bids for reconstruction for roads already approved, but he wanted to bring them to the board's attention. The funds have been appropriated. W. Curtin asked about line painting, for handicap areas, R. Bailey will check into this. Members discussed back roads with two lines in the middle, R. Bailey will also ask about this matter. Members had no objection about going out to bid on road reconstruction projects as submitted

6. Fireworks – 2009 – R. Bailey reviewed the Fireworks schedule for July 3rd and Old Home Days on August 9th. He noted he would like to initiate a contact to arrange for the two fireworks displays. He advised the barge will be a separate charge. W. Curtin

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motioned that R. Bailey contract with Atlas Pyrotechnics, and schedule dates including rain dates, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

Public Input II

None

Non-Public Session – Chairman Curtin motioned to enter into Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA91-A,II:3 (a) (c) and (e). The motion was seconded, the Chairman polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary

Minutes Approved: March 16, 2009